

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20554

MAY 13 1983

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Timothy Wirth
Chairman, House Subcommittee on Telecommunications,
Consumer Protection, and Finance
B-331 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Wirth:

This is in response to a letter of April 25, 1983, from Representative Mickey Leland requesting responses to 86 additional questions for the record as a follow-up to the oversight hearing held on April 19, 1983, by the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Consumer Protection, and Finance.

On May 10, we submitted the Commission's draft responses to questions 1-72. At this time we are submitting our final replies to all 86 questions, including attachments.

In response to your concerns, we have undertaken a detailed review of the Commission's equal employment opportunity profile and progress, as reflected in the responses to questions 1-72 and the attachments. I am pleased to report that the statistics generally show that minorities, overall, as well as minority professional employees, have made substantial gains in percentage representation during the period under review.

Between July 1980 and May 1983, the number of minorities in professional positions at the FCC has increased 15.6%, from 167 to 193, for a net gain of 26 employees. This trend was in marked contrast to overall employment in professional positions at the Commission which fell during the same period from 1226 to 1059, a net loss of 167. Moreover, even though the Commission has been losing employees over the past few years (an overall decrease of 16.6%), total minority representation as a percentage of total work force has increased by 2.5% and minority professional representation as a percentage of professional work force has increased by 4.6%. I would also note that these percentage gains for minorities as a percentage of employees and as a percentage of all professional employees are, with but two exceptions, generally reflected in the statistical profiles of each Bureau and Office as well.

Finally, the reduction in the total minority work force, approximately 9.1% since July 1980, was less than half the reduction of 19.6% in the total non-minority work force. In this regard, I would also point out that in the Private Radio Bureau and in the Office of Plans and Policy, where the percentages of minorities in relation to all employees and to professional employees did decline during the surveyed period, the percentage declines of minorities were markedly smaller than the corresponding percentage declines of all employees and all professionals during the same period.

We believe the generally favorable aspect of these statistics takes on added significance when considered in light of the realities of budget and personnel cuts and hiring freezes that have occurred within the Commission during this same period.

If my staff or I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark S. Fowler
Chairman

cc: Honorable Mickey Leland